MINUTES

OF THE

NINETEENTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

Cherokee Baptist Association,

HELD WITH

CEDAR BLUFF CHURCH,

Cherokee Co., Ala.,

COMMENCING ON

Friday before the second Sabbath in Septemb'r, 1860.

ROME, GA.:
PRINTED AT D. H. MASON'S STEAM POWER PRINTING ESTABLISHMET.
1860.

MINUTES

OF THE

NINETEENTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

Cherokee Baptist Association,

HELD WITH

CEDAR BLUFF CHURCH,

Cherokee Co., Ala.,

COMMENCING ON

Friday before the second Sabbath in Septemb'r, 1860.

ROME, GA.:
PRINTED AT D. H. MASON'S STEAM POWER PRINTING ESTABLISHMET.
1860.

Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2011 with funding from
Lyrasis Members and Sloan Foundation

http://www.archive.org/details/minutesofninetee00cher

MINUTES OF THE CHEROKEE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

FRIDAY, Sept. 7th, 1860.

The delegates composing the Cherokee Baptist Association, convened with Cedar Bluff Baptist Church, Cherokee Co. Ala., on Friday before the second Sabbath in September, 1860.

1. The Introductory sermon was delivered by Elder WM. C. BOONE, from Paul's 2nd Letter to Timothy, 3rd Chapter and 1st clause of the 16th verse. "All Scripture is given by inspiration of God."

2. The Association then commenced. Prayer by the Moderator.

3. Brother Golightly, Clerk, being absent, Brother Jno. Taurance, was appointed Clerk *Pro Tem.*

4. Letters of Churches were called for, and the names of Delegates enrolled.

5. Petetionary letters were called for, when the following newly constituted Churches, to wit: Look Out, Cheroke county, Ala., and Valley Head, DeKalb county, Ala., responded, presenting letters, upon the reading of which, they were severally received in the fellowship of this body.

6. Elected Elder Jno. B. Appleton, Moderator, and Bro. Jno. Lawrence, Clerk for the ensuing year.

7. Called for corresponding letters and messengers; when Elders Silas Witt and H. J. Goss, and Bros. Thos. B. Espy, J. E. Harbin and A. Thornton, announced

themselves as members of the Tallasehatchee Asssociation, and further, that it was the desire of said Association to continue in correspondence with this body; that they had named certain individuals as messengers, and by a standing rule in said Association, any member of that body was duly accredited by that body to any Association with which it corresponded; upon which statement they were cordially received and invited to seats.

Elder N. D. Renfroe, was received as Messenger from the Ten Island Association; Elder Wm. C. Mynott, was received as Messenger and Agent of East Alabama Convention.

8. Appointed as committee on preaching, Bros. F. M. Hardwick and Robt. Babor, from the church, and Bros. J. B. High and Sam. J. Williams, from the body.

Adjourned to 9 o'clock to-morrow morning—prayer by Elder Silas Witt.

SATURDAY MORNING, 9 o'clock.

Met pursuant to adjournment—prayer by Elder J. A. Reeve.

1. Called the roll and marked absentees.

2. The minutes of the preceeding day were read and approved.

3. It was suggested that there were other brethren present from the Tallasehatchee Association, to wit: Bros. Mitchell and Lewis Davis, J. O. Jackson and Wm. Hunter, which brethren were cordially invited to seats with this body.

4. A cordial invitation was given to Elder Wm. C. Buck, Elder of the Baptist Correspondent, and Elders Thos. Grogan, Jr., J. D. Renfroe and J. R. Chambers, to sit with this body and aid by their council.

5. The following named brethren were appointed as committee on finance, to wit: Jno. Brewton, S. N. Appleton and Jesse A. Garrett.

6. The Association thought it expedient to hear reports on the following subjects, to wit: The state of Religion, Temperance, Domestic and Foreign Missions, Sabbath Schools, the Bible cause, Education, Deceased Ministers and Correspondence.

7. The following named brethren were appointed to

prepare reports on the subjects above enumerated, to wit :

On the State of Religion, Elder H. R. Culberson and Bros. J. M. Waters and J. B. Hall.

On Temperance, Elders Wm. C. Boone and J. A. Reeve, and Bro. Asa C. Stephenson.

On Domestic Missions, Bro. H. J. Thornton and Elders A. B. Smith and E. Thornburgh.

On Foreign Missions, Elders Wm. C. Boone and A. B. Smith, and Bro. S. O. Bankson.

On Sabbath Schools, Bros. B. Price and J. H. Wisdom, and Elder J. A. Scott.

On the Bible Cause, Bros. Jno. Lawrence, Wm. L. Maroney and J. Gray.

On Education, Bros. J. B. Walden and Columbus Bartles, and Elder J. A. Scott.

On Deceased Ministers, Elder E. Thornburgh and Bros. Jno. Webb and N. Richey.

On Correspondence, Bros. F. M. Hardwick and Asa C. Stephenson and Elder A. B. Smith.

8. The following brethren were appointed to represent this body in the East Alabama Convention to convene with Mt. Zion Church near Alexandria, in Calhoun county, Ala., on Friday before the 3rd Lord's day in July, 1861, to wit : Jas. B. High, F. E. Hardwick, J. B. Walden, H. J. Thornton, J. A. Scott, Jesse A. Garrett, G. W. Potter, Robt. Baber, H. B. Culberson and G. W. Lamar. Alternates, J. H. Wisdom, A. Thornton, S. J. Williams, W. D. Bearden, G. D. W. Lawrence, B. Price, J. A. Espy, E. Thornburgh, T. S. Appleton and Columbus Bartles.

Adjourned to 2 o'clock, P. M.

Met pursuant to adjournment.

1. The Association informed Bro. Buck. that he now had permission to present the claims of his enterprise. which he did in a few forcible remarks, urging the Association to-cooperate with him, at the close of which remarks, the brethren responded by giving him a fine list of names as subscribers to his valuable paper.

2. Appointed the next Annual Meeting of this body with Mt. Harmony church, at Lebanon, DeKalb coun-

ty, Ala., commencing on Friday before the 2nd Sabbath in Sept., 1861.

Adjourned to Monday 9 o'clock, A. M.

On the Sabbath, the stand was occupied by Elder Wm. C. Boone, at 9 o'clock, A. M. By Elder Wm. C. Buck, at the New House at 11 o'clock, A. M.; and by Elder N. D. Renfroe, at the old house at the same hour, and by Elder Jno. J. D. Renfroe, at 3 o'clock, P. M. The congregations were large and orderly, and the Preaching was forcible and illustrative, and we earnestly hope that it may prove as seed sown in good ground, and that it will become abundantly productive, by adding to the church many, such as the Lord will have saved.

MONDAY, Sept., 10th, 1860.

Met pursuant to adjournment—prayer by Elder J. H. Goss.

1. Called the Roll and noted absentees.

2. Read and adopted the Minutes of last Saturday.

3. Bro. Golightly, the former clerk of this body, informed the Association that there was a surplus in his hands of the minute funds of last year, amounting to two dollars, which he desired should be received and applied by the Association as it might direct. The amount was placed in the hands of the Financial Committee, to be reported with the minute fund.

4. Reports of Committees on the following subjects were received, read, and adopted, to wit:

On the State of Religion.

The Committee on the State of Religion, in presenting their report, are gratified and pleased at the continued and increased progress of Religion in our bounds. Many of our churches have enjoyed most precious seasons of refreshing, and a goodly number has been added. But while this is so with many of the churches, we regret to notice that others are in a cold and barren state. We would most earnestly recommend that all the churches should take fresh courage, renew their efforts, and redouble their energies, that all might enjoy the Divine favor, and be made to rejoice in seeing the work of the Lord prosper in their midst. We, there-

fore, recommend the Missionary operation, that the destitution of our Association may be supplied with the Gospel of Christ. Respectfully submitted.

H. R. CULBERSON, Chairman.

On Temperance.

We, your Committee on Temperance, beg leave to make the following report: Having considered briefly the state of the Temperance cause in the midst of our churches, we decide that the necessities of the case call loudly upon us for active exertion, in order to stay the hand of the hydra-headed monster—Intemperance.

Why is it that our brethren are often arraigned at the bar of the church, and after frequent and earnest remonstrance on the part of the brotherhood, are at last rejected a place in the visible Kingdom of Christ, because of their persistence in the sin of drunkness? We know thatgreat results follow from apparently little causes, and we do sincerely believe that drunken members of the church learn to become such, often from the shameful fact that the professed followers of Christ practice, and speok loudly in defence of social drinking around the private and public pastime boards of our day. Nay. more, we are too well convinced after close observation, that the world takes license in a great degree from the self-same practice of professed christians to engage in the social drinking parties, which too often lead to mid-night revels, and plunge the promising youth of our land into temporal and eternal misery, shame and disgrace.

Brethren, do we not then expose ourselves to great censure, and help to bring an unutterable curse upon the church and the world, when we engage in such gratifications of our appetites? Christ is our King.—He said "If ye love me keep my commandments," and He commanded us to shun the very appearance of sin. Dunkenness is the evil of evils. Drinking ardent spirits for fun or sociability, appears very much like it *might* end in a revel. What evidence have we or the world, that we love Christ if we keep not the very least of His commandments as well as the greatest. He bids us let our light shine that men may see the way to heaven.—

It shines only to light up the dark path to hell, when we stand around the drinking board. How fearful the position ! !

We would, therefore, earnestly recommend the churches and brethren throughout this Association to insist that the love of God be ever the topic of social conversation, at least, when they can think only of a drink to interest them. And if this will be practiced, we think there will be less drunkness and vastly more of true vital religion within our bonds. All of which is respectfully submitted.

WM. C. BOONE. Chairman.

On Domestic Missions.

Your Committee has consulted. and instructed me to make a report.

This subject has been handled so much by able minds, that I almost fear to utter a syllable, feeling that my feeble attempt may detract rather than add to the fullness of the subject.

Domestic Missions differ from Foreign, merely in that Domestic means at home and Foreign abroad. There are none, we believe, who profess to know Christ, that would oppose the spread of the Gospel in our native land, but there are some who would oppose (by their actions, and actions often speak louder than words,) the means by which the Gospel is sent to our destitute regions, they seem to think that it should fly into all parts without money and without price, that our poor laboring preachers should go into those barren regions, and labor and toil through their short existence without hardly the comforts of life. Christ's Kingdom has never been extended by such a process; it has been prosecuted through trials and tribulations, and its advancement is very slow without *money*. "The laborer is worthy of his reward." In ordinary transaction of life we never think of getting a person to labor without pay, and why should we expect the preacher to go without pay.

Our country stands greatly in want of Missionaries, and the wherewith to make them go on their missions. It is really heartrending to hear of the utter ignorance

of some portions of our beloved State in the cause of Christ. There is destitution and want, really in the bounds of our Association. It is a fact worthy of the attention of this body, that there is not a single Missionary Baptist preacher from Van Buren, in Wills Valley even to the State line, with the exception of a few occasional visits from Bro. Scott, our missionary, in fact the greater part of the Northern portions of DeKalb and Cherokee counties are destitute of preachers.

The Indian Missions are in a prosperous condition, a portion of them are having the Bible printed in their own language, in a few more years the last one will have the privilege of hearing the Gospel preached.

I hope brethren that the East Ala., Convention will engage our prayers, our good wishes, and *our money*.— It is, and has been doing great good in the cause of Christ.

Our lives are short, let it not be said that we have lived and enjoyed God's blessings and not furthered the cause of Christ, either by our efforts, or our money.—

Respectfully submitted.

J. H. THORNTON, Chairman.

On Foreign Missions.

We your Committee on Foreign Missions, beg leave to present the following report : Far back in the long ages that have passed, an aged servant of God fled from the home of his fathers and of his youth, and found a hiding place in an unfrequented wilderness from the vengeance of a persecuting tyrant. There he remained in lonely solitude, until Jehovah passed by and a voice said, " What doest thou here Elijah ?"

Now, these words should apply to each Christian in all our bounds. We fled from tyrants and found a resting place amid the wilds of America. " Darkness covers the earth, and gross darkness the people." God's voice demands Christian " What doest thou here ?" A suitable response is given, and the light of the Gospel of God,s Son spreads over the Nations of Europe, and those who sit in darkness see a great light. It cries again : " What doest thou here ?" and soon again Asia's teeming millions behold the grey dawn of the day

spring from on high. Yet again, "What doest thou here?" calls to action the sleeping Christian, and old ocean's isles clap their hands for joy at the reception of the Gospel of peace. Still again: "What doest thou here?" lifts the dark curtains from Africa's Shore, and the genial beams of the Sun of Righteousness begin to enlighten her benighted Sons and shed the glory of celestial light around.

Thus the Nations seem to get the Gospel in order.—The powers of darkness quail before the cross, and the christian soldier storms the Roman Vatican, and burns the cursed car of the Indian Juggernaut. But when we behold the earth we see that the work is only just begun. The Nations open wide the doors, and from every spot of the globe there comes up the loud cry "Come over and help us!" Christian "What doest thou here?" God commands you, every nation begs you. We admonish you. Have you done what you could? You can give the Gospel to earth's perishing millions. Each one of you, "What doest thou here?" The world is the field, and the fruit of every acre is ripe. Consider and answer this question, each one of you—"what doest thou here?" And as you will surely say, "I have not done my duty," then go at once, in God's name, as a missionary to the world, by sending your influence, your *prayers* and *your money*. Respectfully submitted.

WM. C. BOONE, Chairman.

On Sabbath Schools.

Your Committee on Sabbath Schools regret that they have to report a want of Sabbath Schools in every portion of the country almost. In order to supply that want it is necessary that great exertions be made to build up Schools in every Church. Your Committee, therefore, recommend to this body the use of A. C. Dayton's Sabbath School books in preference to any Union Works. So that we may teach our children the true meaning of the Scriptures, as God has intended them to be understood, and may God help us to understand the Scriptures as they stand upon record.

B. PRICE, Chairman.

On the Bible Cause.

We your Committee to whom was referred the Bible Cause, submit the following as the result of our deliberations :

The cause of the Bible is emphatically the cause of the Christian. It is his only *chart* and *compass* to direct him to his *home* in Heaven.

What is the Bible? It is the *Book* of *Books*; it is the volume of Inspiration; it is that book which was written "by Holy men as they were moved by the Holy Gost." We are taught by the sacred historian, that "All Scripture" was "given by inspiratian of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be perfect; thoroughly furnished unto all good works."

What are our obligations as members of the Christian church? In this capacity we become the custodians of God's Holy Book. And we are commanded to go "teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, teaching them to observe all things whatsoever" He has "commanded" us; "and lo," He has promised to be with us "always, even unto the end of the world."

Feeling, and acknowledging the force of this imperative command, should we not be willing to use all the energies of our nature, in propogating the truths contained in this Holy Book. And we do most earnestly hope, that ere long, it will become our appy priviledge to circulate a version of the Scriptures, *pure*, exactly in accordance with the Divine original, without any mixture of error.

Should it not be our earnest desire? Yea, is it not our imperative duty to see that the world is furnished with the *word of life*. Is it our duty only to suggest? Yea, is it not our duty to act? Should we not pray that the Great God would direct us the use of the proper means to be employed in the dissemination of the Bible. Respectfully submitted.

JNO. LAWRENCE, Chairman.

On Deceased Ministers.

We your Committee on Deceased Ministers, report that our beloved Brother, Elder Robt. Conner, died suddenly, having labored in the Ministry on Sabbath, and departed this life on the Wednesday following, leaving a large family in a destitute condition. We recommend your body to extend unto them such assistance as you may be able.

We, also, report the death of our esteemed brother, C. W. Lay, whose absence we mourn.

E. THORNBURGH, Chairman.

On Correspondence.

To sister Associations, with whom she corresponds. Greeting : Dear Brethren :—Our session for 1860, having now closed, we regret that so few Messengers appeared from your several Associations, but trust that in future a larger number of our brethren may have it in their power to attend. Our session has been harmonious. The minutes presented were carefully examined ; we find them orthodox, and containing cheering news of the result of your labors for the past year.

F. M. HARDWICK, Chairman.

The following named brethren are appointed as Messengers to the several Associations, with which we correspond, and the foregoing report on correspondence was adopted as our letter to said Association.

To the Tallasehatchee Association, to convene with Liberty Church, in this county, on Friday before the 1st Sabbath in October next, Bros. F. M. Hardwick and J. B. High, and Elders J. A. Reeve, A. B. Smith, J. B. Appleton and H. R. Culberson.

To the Ten Island Association, to convene with Ohatchee Church, in Calhoun county, on Saturday before the 4th Sabbath this inst., Elders J. A. Reeve and H. R. Culberson, and Bros. H. J. Thornton, J. M. Waters, J. H. Wisdom, J. Brewton and P. Hester.

To the Warrior River Association, to convene with Harmony Church, Blount county Ala., on Friday before the 4th Sabbath in October next, Elders E. Thornburgh, J. B. Appleton, A. B. Smith and H. R. Culberson, and Bro. J. M. Waters.

On Finance.

The Committee on Finance report that they have received the following amounts, to wit:

For Minutes, present year, - - - - - - -		$27 00
Over plus from last year, - - - - - - - -		2 00
Associational Fund, - - - - - - - - -		6 25
		$35 25
Paid Bro. Jno. Lawrence, Clerk, - -	$29 00	
" Bro. Wm. C. Mynatt, Ag't, E. A. C.,	6 25	
	$35 25	

Respectfully submitted.

JOHN BREWTON, Chairman.

Report of Eld. Wm. C. Mynatt, Financial Sec., C. A. C.

For Amount Received from Pleasant Grove Church, pledged in 1859; paid by Elder J. B. Appleton, - - - - - - - - - - - -	$20 00
For amount received from Mt. Harmony Church, pledged in 1859; paid by Bro. J. B. Walden,	20 00
For amount received from Union Church, pledged in 1859, - - - - - - - - - - - - -	20 00
For amount received of Jas. B. High, on pledge made in 1959, - - - - - - - - - - - -	10 00
For amount received of Sam'l. Waldrop, pledged in 1859; paid by Elder A. B. Smith, - -	5 00
For amount received of C. P. Johnson, paid in 1860, - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	2 50
For amount received of Sister Jemima Stephens, paid in 1860, - - - - - - - - - - - -	20
For amount received of O. Hester, paid in 1860,	1 00
For amount received of Sam'l Miller, pledged in 1859, - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	5 00
For amount received of Wm. B. Wynne, pledged in 1859. - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	20 00
For amount received of public collection on Sabbath, - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	5 00
For amount received of Associational fund, -	6 25
" " " membership 1861, - - - - - - - - - - - - -	10 00
	$124 95

For amount received of J. Wilbanks, "Bible Cause," - - - - - - - $50 00
For amount received of A. C. Stephenson, - - - - - - - - - - - 50 00

$100 00

WM. C. MYNATT, F. Sec., E. A. C.

5. On Education.

The committee failed to report on this subject and it was continued and requested to report at our next annual meeting.

6. Elected Eld. J. B. Appleton to preach the next Introductory sermon before this body—Eld. J. A. Reeve, Alternate.

7. It was ordered that the clerk have five hundred copies of these minutes printed.

8. The additional sum of ten and 45-100 dollars was raised to assist the clerk in having these minutes prepared and printed.

9. Appointed distributing Agents—Bros. H. O. Golightly and John Lawrence, for the Ist. dist,—and Bros. J. B. Walden and Eld. J. A. Reeve, for the 2nd.

10. The following resolutions were adopted and the clerk was requested to spread the same on the minutes, to wit:

Resolved, That our clerk be requested to insert in our minutes a list of all ministers, and their post offices in our bounds—ordained and licentiate, so that each of them, when away from home, may be able to present said list as evidence of his position among us; and that we recommend other Associations with which we correspond to have a similar list in their minutes.

Resolved, That the thanks of this body be hereby tendered to God for the manner in which the brethren and friends of this community have sustained the Association during its present session.

11. The Association determined to assist in the support of a Missionary within the bounds of this association, including the following churches, to wit: Mt. Bethel, Holly Springs, Antioch and Valley Head, and selected Eld. J. A. Scott as a suitable person to perform said labors. The financial secretary of the East Ala.

bama Convention gave us the assurance that the Boa
of said Convention would supply the deficit if the Ass
ciation would raise from $150. to $200. A large pa
portion of the amount was pledged, (but if the name
of the donors was left in the possession of the clerk h
has lost or mislaid them.)

The Association then adjourned to the time and pla
named in the foregoing minutes.

JNO. D. LAWRENCE, Cl'k. JNO. B. APPLETON, Mod

ORDAINED MINISTERS.

WM. C. BOONE.	Gadsden, A
JACOB COFFMAN,	Cedar Bluff.
ELLIS THORNBROUGH,	Valley Head.
H. R. CULBERSON, J. A. REEVE, A. B. SMITH,	Duck Springs.
JOHN B. APPLETON,	Vanburen,
JOHN A. SCOTT, AARON HAMMACK.	North Bend.

LICENTIATES.

J. GRAY, B. PRICE.	Duck Springs, A
ASA C. STEPHENSON,	Reubensville.

District.	CHURCHES.	Counties.	Post Office.	Names of Delegates.	By whom supl'd	Sabbaths,	Baptised,	Received,	Restored,	Dismissed,	Excluded,	Dead,	White,	Colored,	Total,	Ministers,	Asso. Purposes.
First District.	Gadsden,	Cherokee,	Gadsden	Wm. C Boone, J H Wisdom, H J Thornton.	Wm. C Boone	4	3	7		13	1		30	12	42	150	5,00
	Lebanon,	"	Turkey Town	John B Hall. A Whorton,	S R Hood	2	10	6	1	23	6		45	16	61	2,00	
	Yellow Creek,	"	Leesburgh	S J Williams, A J Mackey, J A Espey.	S R Hood	1	5	5		9	2		87	11	98	2,00	
	Cedar Bluff,	"	Cedar Bluff	F M Hardwick, R Baber, G D W Lawrence, J Lawrence.	J R Chambers	3	5	4		11	5	2	116	24	140	3,15	
	Unity,	"	Cedar Bluff	Jas. Grogan, Jno. Webb, Sam. O Bankson,	W M Wilson	1	10	4	1	3	1	1	58	2	60	2,00	
	Mill Creek,	"	Cedar Springs	H O Golightly, J B High, Sam'l Miller.	Robert Comer	3		2	2	1		1	44	3	47	1,75	
	Mt. Bethel,	"	Alpine, Ga	Nimrod Richey, Joel M Heifner	Robert Comer	4			2	3			15	1	16	1,00	75
	Holly Springs,	"	Valley Head, Ala	J N Crow.	E Thornbrough	4				11			9		9	50	
	Lookout,	"	Valley Head	E Thornbrough, H R Culberson, J Gray.	E Thornbrough	1							30		30	1,00	50
	Fair View,	DeKalb,	Gadsden	A J Sitz.	H R Culberson	1	5	5		6			49		49	2,20	
Second District.	Union,	"	Duck Springs	J A Reeve, A B Smith, J Brewton, J A Waters, B Price.	A B Smith	2	34	12		15	3	1	140	11	151	3,55	
	Cross Creek,	"		Abraham Neighbors, James Black.		3		8		3	5		20		20	1,10	
	Macedonia,	"	Reubensville	James Willbanks, Asa C Stephenson, C Bartles.	Jno. G York	1	5	15		15		1	42	2	44	1,15	
	Pleasant Grove,	"	Van Buren	John B Appleton, T N Appleton.	J B Appleton	3	3	3		2			48	11	59	1,00	
	Mt. Harmony,	"	Lebanon	John B Walden, W L Maroney, Jessee A Garrett.	J B Appleton	4	1	3		3			34	3	37	1,55	
	Antioch,	"	North Bend	J A Scott, Thomas Hammack,	J A Scott			2		1			7		7	50	
	Valley Head,	"	Valley Head	A T Dickey, Thomas Dean.	J A Scott	4							9		9	1,00	
							81	76	6	119	23	6	783	96	879	$26,95	$6,25

The followtng churches within the limits of, and belonging to this Association, to wit: New Canaan, Hopewell and Mt. Pleasant, all of Marshall co., Ala., failed to send up a representation to the present session.

CLERK.

Cedar Bluff, Calhoun